

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A purified protein comprising a polypeptide sequence that is at least 70% identical to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
  - (a) amino acids 1 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (b) amino acids 39 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2,wherein said polypeptide sequence has a biological activity selected from the group consisting of:
  - (i) binding an antibody specific to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (ii) inducing apoptosis of a cell line derived from pathologic tissue; and
  - (iii) inducing apoptosis of T cells.
2. The purified protein of claim 1 which comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.
3. A composition comprising the purified protein of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
4. The purified protein of claim 1 wherein said polypeptide sequence is at least 90% identical to amino acids 1 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2.
5. The purified protein of claim 1 wherein said polypeptide sequence is at least 90% identical to amino acids 39 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2.
6. The purified protein of claim 1 wherein said polypeptide sequence is at least 95% identical to amino acids 1 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2.
7. The purified protein of claim 1 wherein said polypeptide sequence is at least 95% identical to amino acids 39 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2.
8. A purified protein comprising a polypeptide sequence of 30 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said protein has a biological activity selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) binding an antibody specific to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (b) inducing apoptosis of a cell line derived from pathologic tissue; and
  - (c) inducing apoptosis of T cells.
9. The purified protein of claim 8 which comprises a polypeptide sequence of 50 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.
10. A purified protein comprising a polypeptide sequence that is a fragment of amino acids 1 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide sequence has a biological activity selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) binding an antibody specific to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (b) inducing apoptosis of a cell line derived from pathologic tissue; and
  - (c) inducing apoptosis of T cells.
11. The purified protein of claim 10, which comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.
12. A composition comprising the purified protein of claim 10 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
13. A purified protein comprising a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) the amino acid sequence of the full-length polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97448; and
  - (b) the amino acid sequence of the mature polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97448.
14. The purified protein of claim 13, wherein said polypeptide sequence is (a).
15. The purified protein of claim 13, wherein said polypeptide sequence is (b).

16. The purified protein of claim 13, which comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.
17. A composition comprising the purified protein of claim 13 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
18. A purified protein comprising a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) amino acids 1-281 of SEQ ID NO:2 in which 1 to 5 amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added;
  - (b) amino acids 1-281 of SEQ ID NO:2 in which 5 to 10 amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added;
  - (c) amino acids 1-38 of SEQ ID NO:2 in which 1 to 5 amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added;
  - (d) amino acids 1-38 of SEQ ID NO:2 in which 5 to 10 amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added;
  - (e) amino acids 39-281 of SEQ ID NO:2 in which 1 to 5 amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added; and
  - (f) amino acids 39-281 of SEQ ID NO:2 in which 5 to 10 amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added;
- wherein said polypeptide sequence has a biological activity selected from the group consisting of:
- (i) binding an antibody specific to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (ii) inducing apoptosis of a cell line derived from pathologic tissue; and
  - (iii) inducing apoptosis of T cells.
19. The purified protein of claim 18 wherein said polypeptide sequence is (a).
20. The purified protein of claim 18 wherein said polypeptide sequence is (b).
21. The purified protein of claim 18 wherein said polypeptide sequence is (c).

22. The purified protein of claim 18 wherein said polypeptide sequence is (d).
23. The purified protein of claim 18 wherein said polypeptide sequence is (e).
24. The purified protein of claim 18 wherein said polypeptide sequence is (f).
25. An purified protein produced by a process comprising:  
expressing in a host cell a nucleic acid encoding said protein so as to produce said protein, wherein the nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 1 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 39 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (c) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 1 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2, except for 1 to 5 conservative amino acid substitutions;
  - (d) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 1 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2, except for 5 to 10 conservative amino acid substitutions;
  - (e) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 39 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2, except for 1 to 5 conservative amino acid substitutions;
  - (f) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 39 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2, except for 5 to 10 conservative amino acid substitutions;
  - (g) a polynucleotide encoding the amino acid sequence encoded by the human cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97448; and
  - (h) a polynucleotide that is complementary to a polynucleotide which hybridizes at 60°C in a hybridization buffer consisting of 0.5 X SSC and 0.1% SDS to a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:
    - (i) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 1 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2;
    - (ii) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 39 to 281 of SEQ ID NO:2;
    - and
    - (iii) a polynucleotide encoding the amino acid sequence encoded by the human cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97448, wherein said

polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide that has a biological activity selected from the group consisting of:

- (aa) binding an antibody specific to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (bb) inducing apoptosis of a cell line derived from pathologic tissue; and
- (cc) inducing apoptosis of T cells.

26. The purified protein of claim 25, which comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

27. A composition comprising the purified protein of claim 25 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

28. A protein comprising the amino acid sequence of the purified protein of claim 25.

29. A protein comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of the purified protein of claim 25, wherein said protein has a biological activity selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) binding an antibody specific to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) inducing apoptosis of a cell line derived from pathologic tissue; and
- (c) inducing apoptosis of T cells.